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OSA-0912-64

13 March 1964

MEMORANDUM FOR: Assistant Director, OSA

SUBJECT: Authority for Determining Need-to-Know  
for Access Approvals, Projects I, A,  
C and O

REFERENCE: Same Subject Memorandum Dated  
24 February 1964 [redacted]

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1. A review has been made of pertinent documents and memoranda pertaining to the subject of identification of individuals who possess approving authority of need-to-know for Projects I, A, C and O. The following pertinent memoranda and directives are cited for your information.

a. OSA 2273-62 Dated 20 November 1962; Subject: Determination of Must-Know for Access to Ultra-Sensitive Projects Managed by OSA. This memorandum was written by the Chief, Security Branch, OSA, and addressed to Assistant Director, OSA. It indicated that since 1955, OSA and its predecessor units have been the final authority in determining who should be briefed into Projects I, A, C or O. OSA authority in this area, of course, was always subject to the concurrence of Mr. (Richard M.) Bissell when he was the DD/P.

b. Memorandum for NRO Program Directors from DNRO Dated 20 November 1962; Subject: National Reconnaissance Program, Security Policy Directive No. 1 [redacted]. "Approval of must-know for all individuals associated with the NRP will be made by the Director, National Reconnaissance Office (DNRO), and specifically designated senior Program officials. Employees and officials of U. S. Government Departments, Agencies and Offices who are not directly involved in the NRP but for whom access to NRP project information is deemed essential must be approved by the DNRO or his designee. This includes policy

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NRO review(s)

completed Approved For Release 2003/09/03 : CIA-RDP81B00961R000100160150-3

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officials of the U. S. Government who require knowledge of the reconnaissance effort, but not the specific details of the separate projects."

25X1 c. Memorandum for Director of Security from James A. Cunningham, Jr., AAD/OSA; Subject: NRP (Security Policy Directive No. 1) Dated 30 November 1962 [redacted]. This memorandum suggested that the following senior Program officials be immediately designated as approving officers for must-know:

(1) Deputy Director (Research), CIA

(2) Assistant Director/Special Activities

(In effect, of course, OSA will perform the staff work in this regard.)

25X1 d. Memorandum for the Director of Security, CIA, from Assistant Director, Special Activities, Dated 14 January 1963; Subject: Designation of Must-Know Approval Authority, Selection of Personnel Security Officers and Preparation of Project Security Plans, [redacted]. This memorandum designated the following officials of this Agency as approving officers for must-know for Program B Projects:

Col. Jack C. Ledford, AD/OSA

James A. Cunningham, Jr., DAD/OSA

[redacted]

25X1 e. Memorandum for CIA [redacted] Security/Control Officers from [redacted] Dated 27 March 1963; Subject: Procedures for Requesting Access Approval for National Reconnaissance Office Special Projects [redacted]. This memorandum states "Effective this date the must-know approval of CIA personnel for access to any of the operational NRO special projects will be determined by the Deputy Director (Research), (DD/R), or his designee."

2. The instructions issued by DD/S&T through the Executive Officer, DD/S&T at the 18 February meeting have

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altered previous instructions on the subject of must-know determination and approval. Details in this regard are set forth in the referenced memorandum [redacted] dated 24 February 1964). In effect the approval of need-to-know has been taken from AD/OSA and is now being exercised by DD/SMT for government personnel other than OSA employees and those detailed to OSA in an operational capacity.

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3. The foregoing information is being submitted for your information.



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Acting Chief, Security Staff  
OSA

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OSA/SS: [redacted]

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